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Angus O. Dougherty

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Qwest Communications International Inc.
1801 California Street, # 900
Denver, CO 80202

EXAMINER

MILLS, DONALD L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2416

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Art Unit: 2416

Continuation of 3. NOTE:

Regarding claims 47, 58, and 62, the modifications to the claims changes their scope; therefore, the Examiner is required to perform an updated search. Furthermore, it should be noted that the communication relationship between the optical network unit and the distributed network is unclear because structural relationship between the optical network, distributed routing network and plurality of subscribers is not claimed. It is unclear if a packet in an optical format is transported across an optical network or merely converted between multiple formats for communication with a distributed network.

47. (Currently Amended) A system for distributing high-speed packetized information to a plurality of subscriber units, comprising:

- a host digital terminal distribution center for converting the high-speed packetized information to a first optical format;

- a distributed routing network in communication with the host digital terminal distribution center, the distributed routing network comprising,

 - a plurality of distribution points, each distribution point in the plurality of distribution points in radio contact with at least one other distribution point in the plurality of distribution points; and

 - a plurality of access points,

 - wherein the host digital terminal distribution center is in communication with at least one of the plurality of access points or at least one of the plurality of distribution points;

- an optical network unit in communication with the distributed routing network and adapted to convert the packetized information from the first optical format to a second optical format;

- a network interface device in communication with the optical network unit for forwarding the high-speed packetized information in the second optical-format to at least one of the plurality of subscribers.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DONALD L. MILLS whose telephone number is (571)272-3094. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seena Rao can be reached on 571-272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Donald L Mills/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2416